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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998-1999

UNITED NATIONS REFORM: MEASURES AND PROPOSALS

Letter dated 28 October 1997 from the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples addressed to the Secretary-General

Allow me to reiterate to you our gratitude for your stated dedication to the United Nations efforts on decolonization.

Our recent meetings and correspondence with you have been fruitful and have allowed us to find a mutually acceptable solution to the question relating to the status of the Decolonization Programme in the United Nations system.

We are pleased to note that you have decided to establish a stand-alone Decolonization Unit in the Department of Political Affairs with the necessary resources to provide substantive input for the work of the Special Committee of 24.

Your recognition of the status and continuity of subprogramme 1.6 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 and your overall commitment to the implementation of the Decolonization Programme have met with the satisfaction of the concerned Member States on this important issue.

I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you of our full support to your reform of the United Nations which I am sure will allow us to effectively meet the challenges of the contemporary world.

I wish to congratulate you on your devoted staff assigned to the Decolonization Programme. Their impartial dedication to the United Nations

principles and goals, institutional memory and political professionalism have contributed to the successful conclusion of the 1997 session of the Special Committee, including the recent adoption of its recommendations by the Fourth Committee.

We are confident that the continuity of our mutual understanding and cooperation would allow us to successfully conclude the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism by the year 2000.

I would kindly request that the text of the present letter be issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 18, 116 and 157.

(Signed) Utula U. SAMANA, CMG
Chairman
Special Committee on the Situation
with regard to the Implementation
of the Declaration on the Granting
of Independence to Colonial
Countries and Peoples